

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A signal processing system and method. The inventive system includes a first
5 circuit for distributing an input signal between two or more channels in a current mode
of operation. A second circuit is disposed in each of the channels for processing the
input signal and providing an output signal in response thereto. A third circuit is
provided to combine the signals output by the processing circuit. A fourth circuit is
included for controlling the first and the third circuits. In a specific illustrative
10 embodiment, the system further includes a radio frequency stage for downconverting a
received signal and providing the input signal in response thereto. In the specific
embodiment, the first circuit includes a mixing circuit. The mixing circuit includes
Gilbert cells and circuitry for providing automatic gain control for each of the channels
individually. The Gilbert cells and the automatic gain control circuitry are driven by a
15 transconductance amplifier and therefore operate in a current mode. Differential digital
automatic gain control signals are provided in response to a channel select signal from a
digital control circuit. The inventive circuit provides multiple IF channels which may be
filtered individually. The invention thereby provides wide band operation in a simple,
single stage implementation that consumes little power. Further, the current mode
20 thereof is effective in the reduction of insertion loss.